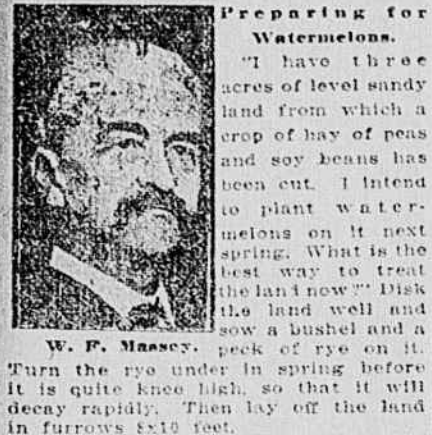


# WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

Saturday, November 1, 1913.



**Preparing for Watermelons.**  
"I have three acres of level sandy land from which a crop of hay of peas and soy beans has been cut. I intend to plant watermelons on it next spring. What is the best way to treat the land now? Disk the land well and sow a bushel and a half of rye in it. Turn the rye under in spring before it is quite knee high, so that it will decay rapidly. Then lay off the land in furrows 12 to 16 feet apart.

Clear-cut the intersections of the furrows and put a peck of rotten manure in each intersection, and just before planting put a good handful of a high-grade commercial fertilizer on the manure and cover the hill and plant the seeds. This gives the plants a head start in the rough land, thin out to two plants in a hill and scatter half a handful of nitrate of soda around each hill, and you will have a fine crop. The vines will allow when the patch is in fruit sow crimson clover seed all over it to make a winter cover after the melons are off.

**Johnson Grass.**  
"What is your opinion of Johnson grass as a hay crop for the lower Tidewater region of Virginia? From the Southeastern section of Virginia southward there is no grass that will make larger crops of hay than Johnson grass. This grass belongs to the sorghum family, and its botanical name is *Sorghum halepense*, though I believe that some of the botanical revisionists now call it *Andropogon halepense*. The greatest difficulty with Johnson grass is its aggressive character. Once started in a favorable locality and it wants the whole country, and in some parts of the South and Mississippi and Alabama it has gotten possession of the whole country, and is waving everywhere. The president of the Mississippi Agricultural College said to me, that while it was at first regarded as a pest, it is now regarded as a blessing, in that it has compelled the farmers to abandon all-cotton and go into stock raising, with the abundant forage the plants supplies.

I was driving over the large farm belonging to the Mississippi College in company with one of the professors. He stopped at one point and said, "This is our alfalfa." I told him that I could see nothing but Johnson grass. But on talking into it I saw that the alfalfa was knee high and the Johnson grass a foot higher. The professor told me that it had been cut three times, and was then ready for the fourth cutting, and that the alfalfa and the Johnson grass seemed to get along very well together.

A grass that can be known four times in one season, in three times in the Southeast, is certainly a valuable grass. But I have always hesitated about advising its introduction in sections where it is not already growing. The one serious objection to its spreading character, but his neighbors may not want it. And once started, it is certain to spread. It makes underground stems or runners as about as thick as a pencil, and these are really annual in duration, and the grass before new underground stems start, it can be destroyed to a great extent and a crop grown on the land.

But by the time the corn or cotton crop is matured the grass will be coming back as strong as ever. I noticed in Mississippi that there was little or no Johnson grass in the pasture, and in fact about a half acre was destroyed to it to pasture it, especially with hogs, which will root out the plants and eat them. If you can be sure to absolutely destroy it, its seedling you might grow Johnson grass without any damage to your other land or your neighbors, but if you let it all over the country, there is no grass seed in the South that will make as much hay and good hay, too. But coming northward, it soon reaches the limit and winter kills. I had a hay buncher in Alabama, but it never reached there to any extent.

**A Winter Cover Crop.**  
"If I leave a heavy growth of cowpeas on the land all winter, will not they make a sufficient winter cover for the land? They will make a mulch, but you do not fully realize what is meant by a winter cover. There are plant roots, nitrate forming even in winter in the soil in the South, where the land does not freeze deeply, and these being in a soluble state, will be washed out by the winter rains. What we want as a winter cover is a growth of hardy plants like clover or small grain crops, to take up the nitrates that would be washed out and use them for their own growth. Then by turning under a cover crop, we return to the soil the nitrates in the form of organic nitrogen to go through the process of nitrification again when the summer plants are active and can use them. Dead vegetation will not save the nitrates. We must have green growing plants to do this. The term 'cover crop' having explains its use. It is a nitrogen-saving crop, and that we need. And it is especially needed in the South, where we have more rain than hard freezing in winter. In the frost all winter, and the cover crop with frost, there is less need of the winter cover crop than in the South. The soil will hold on to all the phosphoric acid and potash, but it cannot hold soluble nitrates.

**Wisteria Not Blooming.**  
"I have a wisteria vine planted three years ago. It has run about 20 feet, but has not made a flower, while vines so large in the neighborhood are covered with flowers. Can you tell me why mine does not bloom? You need in to have a little patience. The wisteria vines sold by the nurserymen are all grown from seed, and it takes a season or two to get the vision of the roots of an old vine. Let your plant grow and it will soon begin to bloom. It usually takes four to five

years to get a nursery-grown plant into blooming, and then you have a really beautiful thing.

**Johnson Clover Made Corn.**  
A South Carolina correspondent of the Progressive Farmer tells of the difference made in his corn by having a seed of Johnson clover turned under. His cornfield had \$12.50 worth of fertilizer an acre, and on a demonstration lot he turned under Johnson clover for corn and used no fertilizer. The corn on clover did not suffer in the extremely dry weather, while the fertilized field did suffer badly. The corn on the clover and would make forty to fifty bushels an acre, while the manured and fertilized field would make about ten bushels an acre. The clover seed cost \$1.25 an acre against \$12.50 on the fertilized piece. The writer naturally determined that hereafter his corn shall always be on a clover seed and under. This is right in line with what I have been advocating for forty years, that it does not pay to depend on commercial fertilizer to make corn. The fertilizer will increase the crop in a favorable season, and in a droughty one may damage it. But any increase in a corn crop made by the liberal application of complete fertilizer mixture will usually cost as much as the corn could be bought for.

**Poison Grass.**  
"I am sending you some heads of a prickly sort of grass that appeared in my wheat field. What is it? Will it become a pest, or is it of no value? The dry heads are the heads of the poison dandel, *Lolium temulentum*, a species of rye grass that has always had a reputation as a poisonous plant. The Roman poet, Vergil, mentions it in his Georgics as "Inelix Lolium," that is, poison the sheep. Whether the plant is poison or not, it is hardly probable that stalk will eat it, but certainly it is desirable to clean the seed from the wheat. In a limited section of Maryland, this grass is the plant called cheat, and some think that wheat raised in it will be most potent. It is an entirely different plant that they imagine oats and wheat change into. But both are distinct species of grass. The common cheat is *Lolium temulentum*, but the prickly *Lolium temulentum* is worse. Reclaim the wheat carefully and you will get rid of it, as it is purely an annual.

**Keeping Eggs in Water Glass.**  
"Is the method of keeping eggs in water glass successful? The water glass, silicate of soda, is said to keep eggs better than any other preparation. I am not an authority on eggs or their keeping, and for my use I do not want any preserved eggs. One who claims to be an authority on the matter says: "Eggs put in the water glass in the spring when they are most plentiful and cheapest, will keep better than those gathered in the heat of summer. The eggs must be cooled at once and put in the water glass in a cold place or in cold storage." This writer says that he put a lot of eggs in the water glass solution last April and May, and now they are still as good as fresh eggs, and he expects to keep them all winter. This may all be true, but I prefer to get fresh eggs even at a high price. I drive out to the farm and see the tenants while run around and collect them from the nests, and then I know that I am getting fresh eggs.

**The Chrysanthemums.**  
The arrival yesterday of a box of the great chrysanthemums that the florists grow, sent by a friend from Washington, leads me to say that where one in this climate wants good flowers on the chrysanthemums out doors, they must have some protection. I have just now a large bed here, a large one placed a tent of cheese cloth as a protection for frost, though as yet there has been none here. But the cover is there all ready for Jack, and will keep the flowers good till hard freezing weather. Some of these have been dis-budded, and will make the flowers, though nothing like the great ones grown by the florists under glass. Yet further South, in Raleigh, N. C., some of the florists make them about as good as the florists' and are doing nothing but the cheese cloth, so that the cheese cloth, if you want to keep the flowers good.

I have a great fancy for growing purple chrysanthemums, and my large bed of chrysanthemums is now from Japanese seed this year, and I am looking for some odd forms of flowers not yet fully out.

**Are You Going to Let Your Implements Lie Out All Winter?**  
Now is the time after all the crops are finished and the wheat seeding done, to see that all the implements are cleaned, oiled and under shelter. There is an awful lot of money going on thousands of farms all over the country from costly implements and machinery left out in the weather. Last week in driving in the country I saw plows and harrows and other implements in the fence corners, where they were lying and coated with rust. Get them all in and clean up well and oil them all in and then prevent rust. It takes time and labor in spring to clean rusty plows of the soil. A good rule is to clean up the implements before the winter. An important money-saver on the farm.

**Has Bought a Maryland Farm.**  
"I have been reading the Times-Dispatch is to be continued. I want to subscribe for the paper by the year solely to get your columns. I have bought a small farm in Southern Maryland, and I am going to farm it. I know nothing about farming, but I tried it once on a dry farm on the Potomac Indian reservation in Montana, and it is the only life to live after all. I have been in the hardest kind of work in the correct way. Your writing seems to teach farmers how to succeed in a very simple way."

Reading these notes will doubtless be of help if you consult me in every difficulty that besets you in your new location. The main difficulty in the Potomac counties of Maryland is the imperfect transportation facilities. On the one side of the river you go to New York more quickly than you do to Washington from St. Mary's County. There is much good land in those counties, and there is a great need for energetic men to take up small farms and improve them. But a piece of land is only a beginning. You will need some cash capital to carry on a farm with success, and if you have none ahead of you, you had better stay in Richmond till you can save more money. Learning farming by experience is a very costly way to learn, but one who is able and determined to do it, will finally work out. You do not need any crops you propose to grow. You have bought in a tobacco section and probably should grow tobacco, as every one else around you. But start at once with a systematic rotation of crops, and do not keep all the rest of the farm poor in order to have rich tobacco lots. But do not imagine that you are going to get rich by the farming of the section. All you will find that your neighbors have learned a good deal from long experience there, and may be able to advise you in many ways. Prove all things and hold on to those that are good.

**Hereford Cattle**  
IS HEAD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, ORANGE, VA., NOV. 6, 1913.  
The best blood of the breed.  
32 head from Warren T. McCray, Kentland, Ind.; 15 head from Graham T. Blandy, White Post, Va., and others. Catalogues sent on application to LUCIO W. HILL, Auctioneer, Locust Dale, Va.  
Auctioneers: Col. Fred Reppert and Col. D. M. Pattle.

## The Pianola Player-Piano

The Piano with the Player Built Inside the Case.  
The Piano having all the advantages of the ordinary piano—tone, action, appearance and hand-playing facilities.

This player is built into some of the best pianos made. Come to our store and let us show you how easy it is to have music in your home, whether you can play the piano or not. Easy terms.

Send for catalogue—it's free.  
**Walter D. Moses & Co.,**  
103 E. Broad St.  
Oldest Music House in Virginia and North Carolina.

## PLEADS GUILTY TO CAPITAL CHARGE

William Butler Admits Highway Robbery, and Gets Minimum of Eight Years.

William Butler, a twenty-one-year-old white man, pleaded guilty to the charge of highway robbery in the Hastings Court yesterday, and was sentenced by Judge Richardson, after a review of the evidence, to serve eight years in the penitentiary. Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes made an earnest plea for clemency.

Hastings Court yesterday made the statement yesterday that it was the first case in its knowledge, in which the prisoner before the bar pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with a capital offense. The board brought out extenuating circumstances, which, with the Commonwealth's Attorney's plea for mercy, led the court to impose the minimum sentence provided by the law.

Butler was arraigned on two indictments. The first charged him with holding up J. W. Hopkins on the night of September 6 and robbing him of \$250 in currency. This indictment was dismissed. Another true bill charged him with robbing W. D. Turner of \$20 on September 12. The robbery occurred early on a Saturday night, near Eleventh and Main Streets, when the section was teeming with people.

In neither hold-up, it was brought out, did Butler make use of weapons. He hit his victims in the face with his fist and rifled their pockets while they were recovering from the shock. Although an investigation by detectives revealed an unfortunate early history, Butler has never before been charged with a serious offense.

**GRAVE FEARS FELT FOR FISHING VESSEL**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Heathsville, Va., October 31.—The Mary E. Garner, one of the fishing boats of the Chesapeake, has not been heard from for more than a week, or since she started for the ocean fishing grounds. It is hoped by her owners that her catches have been small, and she has sold them to other steamers, as is sometimes the custom, and is waiting for a full catch to be taken.

This is unusually early for ocean fishing, which generally commences about the middle of November. The rains commencing so early with such the fish season a good omen.

The steamer of the C. E. Davis Tackling Company have been coming in with large catches of fish, yielding seventeen and eighteen gallons to the ton.

**Badly Hurt in Runaway.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Winchester, Va., October 31.—Charles W. Pliskow, his wife and four daughts, were hurled headlong from a carriage when their horse, becoming frightened, ran off the high list of Winchester. All were more or less injured, suffering fractures, dislocations, gashes and bruises.

**COMPANY IS ORGANIZED TO DEVELOP COAL FIELDS**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Bristol, Va., October 31.—The United Coalfields Company was organized here today with capital stock of \$500,000. The purpose of this company is to develop new and larger veins of coal in the Black Mountain district in Lee County, and to develop the large coal fields of the Southwest Virginia coal fields.

Charles W. Boudarant, of Bristol, is president and manager of the company. The company has a number of prominent coal operators associated with him.

**Loss of Duty on Chief Import Fails to Bring Expected Slump.**  
In keeping with the healthy increase throughout the year, the total collections at the local customs-house for the past month were the heaviest since June, and exceed any month of last year, with the exception of October, according to figures compiled yesterday at the close of business by Collector P. G. Smith. Duty amounting to \$112,815.29 was levied during October, while an abnormal total of \$142,772.35 was collected the corresponding month of the previous year.

Collector Smith is greatly gratified with the showing made by his office. It was feared that the change in the tariff would cut down the collections to a great extent. This was done in the case of burlap, which, until last month, was the greatest single article of import coming to this market. In spite of the fact that it is now duty free, the total is not greatly affected.

The variety of articles coming into this port increases yearly. The largest imports at the present time are of import coming to this market from Scotland, toys, chinaware and glassware from England and Germany, and laces and embroideries from Germany. It is anticipated that the changed tariff will be the means of bringing many other articles into this port, and will make considerable change in the class of goods.

Although it is not generally known, Richmond ranks among the first cities in the country in the importation of clover. Great quantities of this seed are brought here yearly and distributed throughout the country in smaller lots. It comes in free of duty.

**Dewey Repudiates Claims.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Washington, October 31.—Rear Admiral Dewey to-day repudiated the claims of Harry P. Dewey, an actor, under arrest at Alpena, Mich., on a charge of impersonating an officer, that he was the "favorite nephew" of the Spanish War hero.

**DR. M'DANIEL HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT**  
[Continued From First Page.]  
was to have preached there in the First Baptist Church, his engagement was canceled by telephone.

Dr. McDaniel's car was righted soon after the accident, and was found not to have been so badly damaged as was

## PAYS STATE TAX FOR FIRST TIME

R. F. & P. Railroad, Under New Charter, Sends Check for \$41,000.

**PENALTY ADDED AFTER TO-DAY**  
Many Roads Make Annual Settlement, State Receiving Large Sums From Corporations.

For the first time since its organization, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company yesterday paid without contest the taxes assessed against it by the State of Virginia, through the State Corporation Commission. A check for \$41,468.02, the amount of taxes accruing to the State on the property and franchise of this railway for the year 1913, was handed to the State Auditor of Public Accounts and turned over by him to the State Treasurer.

Under its original charter, granted to encourage railroad building in Virginia, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company was exempted from all taxation. Several years ago, when the railroad doubled-tracked its line and condemned a new right-of-way, the State made the claim that it had abandoned its exemption, and instituted suit for taxes. A compromise was effected last year, after the fight was waged through the courts and Legislature, by which the State was paid about \$350,000 and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company given a new charter without exempting it from taxation.

A \$200,000 Check.  
In a rush to settle State taxes before the time limit expired, public service corporations paid into the State treasury a total of about \$140,000. A check for \$199,018.88, representing the taxes due from the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, was brought to the State Auditor's office too late in the afternoon to be deposited in bank by the State Treasurer and accordingly it was placed in the office safe overnight without being sent down to the credit of the treasury. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway will be accredited with paying its tax to-day.

Steam railways are required to pay the State taxes before midnight to-night. Other public service corporations are allowed until November 21 to settle their State taxes. State Auditor Moore has decided that checks mailed at any time to-day, although not reaching his office until Monday, will be accredited as having been received on November 1. A penalty of 5 per cent will be added to all taxes not paid by midnight.

**Some Big Payments.**  
Railways to pay their State taxes yesterday were Virginia Railway and Power Company, \$28,720.84; Washington-Southern Railway, \$17,897.71; Richmond and Potomac Connecting Company, \$682.31; Virginia-Southern Railway, \$673.24; Potomac Railway Company, \$503.65; Chesapeake and Western Railway, \$1,187.94; Chesapeake-Western Railway, \$255.1; Norfolk Terminal Railway, \$1,031.52; Winchester and Potomac Railway, \$1,560.93; Winchester and Strasburg Railway, \$2,342.08; Valley Railroad, \$4,259.09; Norfolk Southern Railway, \$2,562.33; Richmond and Henric Railway, \$2,566.44; Norfolk Railway and Light Company, \$2,579.15; Newport News and Old Point Railway, \$5,913.53.

**BEACON SHOES**  
a step in advance

Shop early for your fall Beacons and get exclusive shoe style and old fashioned, custom comfort. Our Agents in the smallest towns received our advanced Fall styles as early as our Agents on Fifth Avenue, New York, or State Street, Chicago. 3400 dealers sell Beacon Shoes, why so many?

**Beaconize Your Feet**  
F. M. HOYT SHOE CO., Makers  
Baltimore, - New Hampshire

SOLD IN RICHMOND BY  
**POWELL BROS., 1537-41 East Main St.**

**UNION MADE \$3 \$3.50 \$4 FOR MEN**

**Plan NOW For Winter Eggs**  
You are sure to have plenty when eggs are scarce and high, if you use PRATTS Poultry Regulator

Packages 25c, 50c, \$1.00; 25 lb. pail \$2.50.  
This standard digestive and tonic keeps hens in prime condition—up to their highest efficiency all the time. It's THE way to get eggs when prices are high. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

Don't let roup, colds, catarrh, etc., start.

**Use PRATTS ROUP REMEDY**  
PILLS OR POWDER  
The best preventive—the sure cure. Refuse substitutes. Insist on PRATTS. Sold on Money Back Guarantee by Seed, Poultry Supply and Feed Dealers in Richmond and vicinity.

PRATT FOOD CO., Philadelphia—Chicago.

# CAUTION!

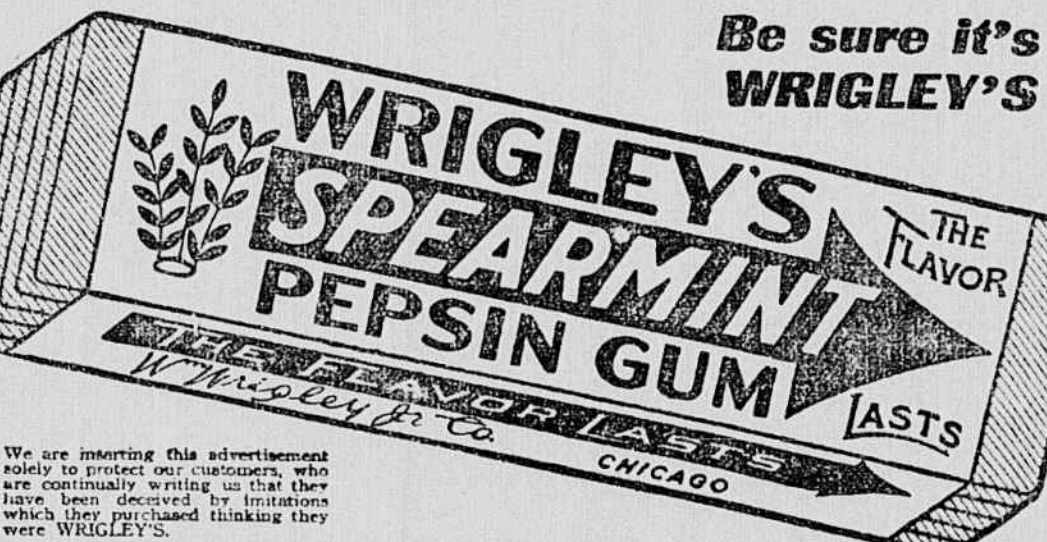
The great popularity of the clean, pure, healthful

**WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT**

is causing unscrupulous persons to wrap rank imitations that are not even real chewing gum so they resemble genuine WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT. The better class of stores will not try to fool you with these imitations. They will be offered to you principally by street fakirs, peddlers and the candy departments of some 5 and 10 cent stores. These rank imitations cost dealers one cent a package or even less and are sold to careless people for almost any price.

If you want Wrigley's look before you buy. Get what you pay for.

Be sure it's WRIGLEY'S



We are insuring this advertisement solely to protect our customers, who are continually writing us that they have been deceived by rank imitations which they purchased thinking they were WRIGLEY'S.

## CUSTOM RECEIPTS KEEP ON GAINING

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## To Booklovers' Contestants

Be SURE you put FIRST-CLASS POSTAGE on your set of answers. Have your set of answers weighed by your Postmaster. No sets of answers will be received by this newspaper unless they have sufficient postage. Bear this in mind.

All sets MUST be in our office by 6 P. M., Saturday, November 1. Sets sent through the mail, however, and received later than November 1, will be accepted, provided they bear a postmark previous to 6 P. M. of November 1.

**Important Notice to All Booklovers' Contestants**  
In turning in your set of answers, wrap the set up securely. No matter whether you submit an Answer Book or simply pictures and coupons, wrap the set up well.

DO NOT ROLL OR FOLD THE PACKAGE. SEND IT IN FLAT.

**And Be Sure You Have First-Class Postage on Your Package.**

**Don'ts for Booklovers' Contestants**  
Don't roll your set of answers. They MUST be sent in a FLAT package.

Don't put less than first-class postage on your package.

Don't fail to bind your pictures together if you do not have an Answer Book.

The postmaster will return it to you unless you use sufficient postage, as this newspaper will not accept it.